

## Pumas Honor Women's History Month

By: Shana Dempsey Satff Writer



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Have you seen the posters hanging in the cafeteria? If you answered yes to this question and you are wondering why I asked it, let me explain. March is Women's History Month. Puma Women Today and Phi Alpha Theta are two organizations here at SJC who are recognizing Woman's History Month.

Women's history month started back in the 1970's when women's history was not talked about in grade school or in the general public. The Education

Task Force of the Sonoma County (California) Commission on the Status of Women started to have a Women's History Week in 1978. Since then schools around the country have joined the celebration of Women's History for an entire month to encourage

Phi Alpha Theta is an organization "that professional society whose mission is to promote the study of history through the encouragement of research, good teaching, publication and the exchange of learning and ideas among historians. We seek to bring students, teachers and writers of history together for intellectual and social exchanges, which promote and assist historical research and publication by our members in a variety of ways." Erica Brown, President of Phi Alpha Theta, has been one of 12 members in charge of the events this month.

"This organization helps members network, if only with other history students," said Brown. "We do a lot of things within the history department, such as our Freshmen Meet and Greet at the being of the year, and we also do field trips to historical sites and museums. This year, we

are trying to broaden the scope of our society by trying to promote history to other students on campus."

Puma Women Today also has an impact on Women's History Month. This is a part of

the Campus Minstry here at SJC. They have also been responsible for others events on campus that support the respect and protection of women, including Take Back the Night, and a worldwide candle vigil for deceased children.

This month, Phi Alpha Theta hosted a Sadie Hawkins dance in the chapel basement on March 20th at 9 PM. "Last month we held movies to celebrate Black

History month, and this month we decided to do something a little different," said Brown. "Sadie Hawkins dances puts the girls in charge. Instead of a traditional dance where the male asks the female, this type of dance allows

girls to be in charge. Anybody is welcome, whether or not they have a date, we just want people to come out and have a good



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### The Girls Ask the Guys for Women's History Month

By Francisco Gonzalez Staff Writer

March is Women's History Month and one event that took place on campus over the weekend was the Sadie Hawkins Dance. The Dance took place at nine in the evening outside of Cup O' Joe in the Chapel basement. The event was co-sponsored by Phi Alpha Theta(History Honors Society), MAC (Make A Choice), and Cup O' Joe.

Dr. Illicia Sprey, History Professor, and the head of Phi Alpha Theta, shared a few words about the event, "the Sadie Hawkins Dance, it gets it's name from an old comic strip "Lil' Abner". The tradition was born of a dance where instead of the girls waiting for a boy to ask her out that the girl asked the guy. It dates back to at least 1938 and is meant as a way to hold an informal dance, versus something like a semi-formal or prom-like event." The Sadie Hawkins dance is a tradition done across the nation at colleges and high schools. It is typically done in March to honor Women's History Month.

ontents

The dance itself was designed to resemble a middle school dance. There were blue and white streamers and balloons filling the dance space that was created outside the free campus coffeehouse. The music also resembled that which one might hear at a middle school function. There was a wide variety of things for the ears to enjoy, from a song by the Spice Girls to Michael Jackson's Thriller to the classic

Chicken Dance. Even though the guys were a

bit outnumbered on the dance floor, the night remained a success and a fantastic way to remember the month for women.



(Pictured above) Students dance their troubles away and aknowledge Women's History Month at Cup O' Joe.

(Pictured to the left) Jennifer Ruff, April Taber, Danielle Marshell, Eileen Mills-Groniger, Erica Brown, Sabrina Butts, and Bailey Snider can't hold it in as laughter fills the dance floor

(Photos Courtesy of Andrew Dudich)



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## Page 2 Easing Back to Classes After Spring Break AG Silver Returns to SJC

By Kaylee Smith Guest Writer

Our worst nightmare when coming back from break is a sudden and complete onslaught of the stress we had left back on campus during our relaxing vacations. No one on campus wanted the fun to suddenly end. Thanks to SUB, the break ended with more of a slide into what was needed to be done. Monday and Thursday of that first week back saw SUB bringing in two comedians to ease our entry into the second half of the semester.

On Monday, the audience heard jokes and bits the revolved around our own campus. Though Mike Kostas kept those who came laughing, the jokes so close to home kept some in the audience short changed. "He started off fairly well," Sabrina Butts commented afterwards, "but his jokes just didn't move me at all."

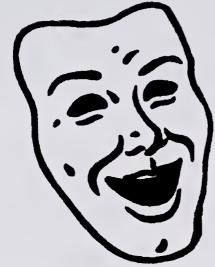
Similarly, Lisa Suding said, "I should have just gone back to my room." Even with the mixed feelings in the crowd, laughter was ringing in the ballroom Monday night.

Thursday night brought

a smaller crowd, but more laughter could be heard coming from the ballroom when Richie Holiday had his turn to make students chuckle. He joked about everything under the sun. Holiday kept the laughter ringing out even long after his bit was finished for the night. "I loved the child's alphabet toy he used to show how he tried to pick up women," Zach Mocek excitedly commented after the show.

Lindsey Smith also liked the show, saying, "Holiday was as hilarious as he was hot." Afterwards some of the audience got to hear some of his jokes for his next show.

Thanks to SUB's well planned week, the students could easily slip from relax mode to school mode. Now we can all hit the books with the light air left after our wonderful nights of laughter. If you want to hear more jokes from these comedians, look on Facebook.



By Sabrina Butts Staff Writer

On Thursday, March 19, SUB sponsored a returning band to campus. The Pumas were glad to see the band AG Silver back to perform for everyone at 9 pm. There was a great crowd and everyone was enthusiastic about it. Before the concert began, SUB President and Sophomore Criminal Justice Major, Jordan Leising, arrived to the stage and announced the winner of the Best Seat in the House, a couch positioned near the front of the stage. Giving the students the chance to win this seat has started to become a tradition at the SUB events. The winners were Freshman Political Science major Gloria Thornburg and Freshman Criminal Justice major Marie Wright.

The band played several covers along with some original songs, including one that was the theme for a group whose goal

was to dig wells in Africa. Some original songs included "All That to Say" from their first CD and the title track from their new album, "Love Keeps No Score."

"It was a great concert," said Sophomore Elementary Education major Eileen Mills-Groninger. "I had to leave early, but I had a great time."

Sophomore Art Major April Taber obviously agreed. "This is one of the few bands that I liked enough to buy their CDs."

The band sold CDs after their show, along with t-shirts and stickers. The first CD cost \$8 while the newest CD cost \$5. Students could get both CDs for only \$10. Needless to say, the audience was psyched to see AG Silver perform again and is anticipating their return again next year. If you missed the band this time around, contact SUB to set up their return again, or visit them on the internet at www.agsilver.com. It will be well worth it.



Photo Courtsey of http://www.uaa.alaska.edu/studentlifeandleadership/activities/images/

## Laughter Storms SJC

By: Elysse Hillyer Staff Writer

On March 14, the Halleck ballroom was filled for the third time that week for comedy week at SJC. The Saint Joseph's College Comedy Festival was the climax of the Student Union Board's week full of laughs. Aside from providing students with a good time, the comedy festival took donations from students that went to Generation Rescue, an autism research group.

On the bill for the night were the Saint Joseph's College Improv Group and Kyle Fender, a student here at the College. The Improv Group was the first to perform to warm up the crowd before Kyle Fender took the stage. Though their number was slightly less than usual for various reasons, none of their comedy was lost.

As the group's name implies, the show was all done on the spot, highlighting the

comedic skills of the group. They started with a game where all the members of the group were an expert on something, but each person could only say one word at a time. The audience suggested that they be an expert on cheese, so the group gave one word at a time to answer the audience's questions on cheese.

The group played another game involving three members and one of them had to be sitting, standing, and bending at any given time. The members frantically scrambled to keep all the appointed positions filled as they acted out the planning of a bachelorette party. The improv team finished their set with a game called how Harry met Sally in which the couple on it told the story of how they met at Fair Oaks Dairy Farm and fell in love.

After the Improv Group finished, Kyle Fender took the stage and explained more about the Generation Rescue charity.

A bucket was passed around for the audience to donate after any particularly funny joke. While onstage, Kyle talked about how to get free drinks on spring break, and that it didn't work unless you were in Florida. He also explained the difficulties he had when he was single due to his inability to talk to girls. His girlfriend and family, who were in attendance, received plenty of attention in his jokes. He also explained the underlying meaning behind winking and giving a thumbs up.

The first annual Saint Joseph's College Comedy Festival was a great success and a good time was had by all. In addition to everyone feeling a little more cheerful as they left, those who donated felt even better for having given some money to help autism research. Freshman History major Mary Delach said "The Improv people were funny as usual and Kyle Fender made me laugh."

### **Upcoming Events**

\* 3/24 Lenten Labyrinth Walk 7:00 in the Ballroom

\* 3/26 Karios 52 Begins

\* 3/26 History Guest Speaker 3:30 in Core 106

\* 3/29 Band Concert 2:00 in the Ballroom

\*4/2 Pirates Of Penzance Begins 8:00 in the Theater

\* 4/4 Puma Preview Day

\* 4/4 "Disorientation" Senior Career Event 9:00 am in the Ballroom



Roxie Kooi, David Santagelo, Kaylee Smith, Lisa Guzman, Joe Stewart, and Heather Madden, members of the SJC Improv Group set up the next comedic game. (Photos Courtesy of Elysse Hillyer)



Dear Editor,

Many people believe rape is only committed by someone the victim does not know. In reality, about 77% percent of rapes are by an acquaintance, or someone the victim knows or has met before. Someone is four times more likely to be raped by someone they know, rather than a stranger. Furthermore, according to Women's Coalition of St. Croix, eighty-four percent of rape victims are under the age of twenty-four, with the largest percentage being between eleven and seventeen.

Rape is a scary and terrifying thing to go through, let alone experiencing it at age eleven, and especially being raped by

someone you know. According to statistics, the largest groups committing rape are classmates, friends, a boy/girlfriend or ex boy/ girlfriend, or acquaintance.

There are many things we can do as a college community to prevent acquaintance rape, starting simply by talking to adolescents about dating. Do not allow yourself to be pressured into sex, even by a boy/girlfriend. We may be able to start a Teen Dating Violence Awareness and Prevention week on campus as well as a week in February, in the hopes of reaching out to students already in abusive relationships. Students often don't take this "stuff", as they call it, seriously, and think that it will never happen to them; in reality it is happening to someone they know, even if they do not know about it.

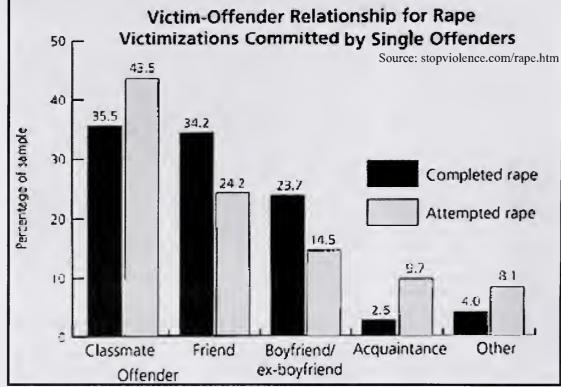
Tips to pass on to your friends about dating, going to a party, or just about anything in life:

- Trust your gut
- · Take care of yourself
- Be careful
- Communicate clearly
- Be aware and

#### independent

- Don't go alone with someone new
- Share your values with others
- Most importantly, do not be pressured by anyone or any situation

Maggie Schmitt



Dear Editor,

It's 11:30 pm, and I'm trying to go to sleep. I have an eight o'clock class almost every morning, so I need all the sleep I can get. But the dilemma: my floor full of girls, and the guys they are hanging out with, are being extremely loud. They're playing some sort of game right outside my door, and don't care about anyone else in the rooms around them. Quiet Hours are supposed to start at ten on week nights, but our RA isn't on duty, so nothing is being done to quiet these girls down.

I understand wanting to have fun, but does it really have to be at 11:30 on a weeknight? Don't they have class the next day, homework due, and tests to study for like me? I can be loud, just ask any of my friends, but I try not to be too loud to disturb my fellow dorm mates when I do. None of the dorms have completely sound-proof walls, so when someone is loud, all the other rooms near them and in the hallway can hear them. When trying to read for class or concentrate on homework, I don't want to hear my neighbor arguing with her boyfriend through the wall, and even worse in the hallway (in case anyone doesn't know, the hallway amplifies any sound made).

Quiet Hours are not being enforced here at Saint Joe, and they should be. In the Puma Guide, it clearly states, "The intent of the Quiet Hours Policy is to create an atmosphere in the residence halls that is conducive to pursuing an education as well as promoting social development, respect, and courtesy among residents." It also states that there are to be 24 hour courtesy hours in effect at all times, meaning "at no time should there be loud talking, loud music/TV, or other activity that would be disruptive to other residents."

I know that I am not the only one who feels this way. In order to get input from others living on campus about Quict Hours, I designed a survey that could be taken anonymously and asked my fellow Pumas to take it. The survey consisted of what dorm the person lives in, if they knew and what their dorms' Quiet Hours are, and if they personally followed their Quiet Hours. Any concerns or comments could be added. In total, 62 people took my survey. 76% of those surveyed said that they knew or thought they knew their dorm's Quiet Hours. And out of the people surveyed, 73% said that they do follow their Quiet Hours, even if they didn't know the exact time. I know that my survey did

not include a majority of Pumas living on campus, but there is a need for change.

In the comment section of my survey, many different responses were given. Some Pumas expressed that they disliked Quiet Hours altogether and that they should be abolished; some stated that most people don't follow Quiet Hours or that they aren't enforced, and others explained the advantages of having Quiet Hours. One person stated about Quiet Hours not being enforced, "My RA ignores certain people being loud." Another said, "If Quiet Hours are to be established, then they also need to be enforced." I am not trying to get any RA's in trouble. I really like my RA, but when she's not on duty, nobody else is on our floor throughout the night to enforce Quiet Hours and punish the people who don't follow them.

I feel, from the result of my survey, that I am not the only Puma living on campus that feels that Quiet Hours need to be changed, whether it be by the times they start, or how strongly they are enforced. Without a change, the situation will continue to escalate into a bigger problem.

Sincerely,

Monica Lohmuller

## Religion on Campus

By Kynten Hannon Staff Writer

Since we have all entered college, most of us have learned to be open-minded about the differences between ourselves, our peers, and our elders. During this time, many of us have acquired the skill of tactfulness when discussing the distinctions between people. Despite the mastery of this talent by some people, personal observations and conveyed experiences of many individuals around me have shown that there are still quite a few individuals who have not yet mastered, or shown no interest in mastering, the art of respectful conversation. Those of us who have gotten to experience this rather rude display of bigotry, generally are of the opinion that someone should teach these people how to be a little less selfrighteous and a little more tolerant of others. Many people have put up with these apparent attacks on our personal beliefs more than once, and I for one, have had enough.

This disrespect has occurred in an array of topics, but the one that seems to be the cause of a great deal of feuding and bad blood this semester seems to be religion. What religion you practice is completely irrelevant. Religion is a vital part of many people's lives and is not something to be looked down upon by anyone.

For those of you who are bearing the brunt of these offenses, do not be embarrassed by your beliefs. They are your beliefs and you are free to believe whatever you wish. Do not let others browbeat you into changing your stances. If your beliefs are genuinely threatened by anyone, defend them. On the other hand, do not be thin-skinned or easily offended either. College is meant to discuss significant societal issues, and your beliefs, among other things, may be part of that discussion (please note that I say DISCUSSION, not CONDEMNATON).

Overall, probably the most aggravating method of disrespect to others is when the offender speaks poorly of a person while the person being attacked is not present. Quite frankly, if you are going to insult someone, please surprise everyone and have the intestinal fortitude to do so to their face. This is not high school.

In reflection, this offensive behavior is getting out of hand. I think everyone is due for a reality check. We all need to calm down and attempt to be a little more understanding of each other. This applies to the campus as a whole, students, staff, professors, and all. If this behavior can be eliminated, campus will be a much more hospitable place.

The Student Forum is your way to speak out and have your voice be heard. Please send your letters to Morgan Myers at mmq7668@saintjoe.edu attached as a Rich Text Format (.rtf) document.



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We, the newspaper staff of *The Observer*, while exercising our First Amendment rights to freedom of speech, promise to adhere to the highest journalistic standards. *The Observer* will not print articles, editorials, or other material that misquote or misrepresent members or organizations within the Saint Joseph's College community. While constantly striving to meet these goals, we can and will print retractions amending or remedying any problems brought to our attention.

# Have your voice be heard!

--Are there people or groups on campus that you think deserve to be recognized for their contributions to the campus community? --Are their **issues** in The Observer that

need to be addressed?
--Do you have any concerns
with policies on campus?
--Are there issues you
think need to be discussed?

-Tell US About It!!



### New Jersey Rockers Search for Common Existence with Their New Album

By Michael Garrity Staff Writer

For this week, I will take a break from talking about some of the great albums of yesterday to review a recent release. Common Existence, the fifth studio album from post-hardcore legends Thursday, was released in late February of this year.

Back in 2004 following the commercial failure of their third album, War All the Time, the band took a brief hiatus to decide in which direction they wanted to go and left many fans wondering if they would ever get back together. Then a couple of years later they came out with A City by the Light Divided, a much more mature and eclectic effort than their previous albums, but one that drastically divided their fans. Some loved it and some hated it (I thought it was great), but no matter what, no one could deny that it was certainly a much more commercially friendly release.

And now, three years later, the band has left the major label Island Records for the independent Epitaph Records. They have released their heaviest album yet with eleven tracks with very few breaths. Thursday has created an album that is both relentless and beautiful at the same time, while never deviating too far from their distinct sound that has made them fan favorites for years now.

The album starts off with its heaviest song, and first single, "Resuscitation of a Dead Man," which at times sounds more like singer Geoff Rickly's grindcore side project, United Nations, than any Thursday song. However, in typical Thursday fashion, the song slows down a bit in the bridge before coming back into one last abrasive chorus before ending. The song also features guest vocals by Tim McIlrath of Rise Against.

Without letting the pace

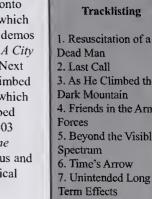
slip the album moves onto the song "Last Call," which was one of the leaked demos from their last album, A City by the Light Divided. Next is the song "As He Climbed the Dark Mountain," which sounds like it was ripped straight off of their 2003 album War All the Time with its big, epic chorus and ambiguous, metaphorical

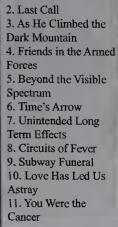
The fourth track is the politically charged "Friend in the Armed Forces," followed by the song "Beyond the Visible Spectrum," which has one of the best choruses the band has ever written.

"Time's Arrow," based on a book by Martin Arnis, starts off with just an acoustic guitar before the whole band comes in, but is by far the slowest song on the album. The next track, "Unintended Long Term Effects," is the album's catchiest, yet

shortest, song and helps to pick the pace back up from mellow to kick your cat out of the window excitement.

"Circuits of Fever," after the long instrumental introduction, boasts some of the most beautiful harmonies the band has ever created. Of every track on the album, this one sounds the least like a Thursday







"Subway Funeral," on the other hand, is the most typical Thursday song, with its in-yourface verses and slowly building bridge that has Rickly wailing his heart out about a "subway funeral that never ends." The next track, "Love Has Led Us Astray," reminds one of the Joy Division song "Love Will Tear Us Apart" in more ways than one. This is not surprising to a longtime Thursday fan, however, since they will remember that the band wrote a song for the late Ian Curtis, Joy Division's singer/songwriter, on their first album Waiting.

The final track, "You Were the Cancer," starts out extremely quiet, it turns into the most powerful song on the album. This song sounds as if it could have been written at any time during their career. It may be a bit much to call this the band's best song,

but it should be considered among them. It is refreshing to have them end the album on such a powerful note, as the rest of their records have always seemed to run out of gas by the last track. "You Were the Cancer," however, leaves the listener wanting more the second

Though this will probably not be the band's most commercially successful album, and most fans will never consider it as good as some of their earlier work, Common Existence is the album that Thursday has needed to write for some time now. The influence that Thursday has had on posthardcore music is immeasurable and they continue to reinvent themselves with each new album. This album is no doubt a must have for fans of the band and still a good listen for those who are unfamiliar with their music.

#### Thursday

Release Information Date: February 17, 2009 Label: Epitaph Producer: Dave Fridmann

**Artist Information** Geoff Rickly - vocals Tom Keeley - guitar, vocals Steve Pedulla - guitar, vocals Tim Payne - bass Tucker Rule - drums Andrew Everding keyboards, synthesizers,



(Photo courtesy of http://c3.ac-images.myspacecdn.com/images02/48/1\_a9efbef7f46a474a994f5fe0808e3ala.jpg)

### An Inspiration To Us All

By Amber Melvin

Staff Writer

I bet a lot of you have seen movies where there are characters who knows that they are very bright, but do not take advantage of their gift. I have seen movies like this before, but I had never seen a really inspiring film that was actually worthwhile to watch, until I saw "Good Will Hunting". If you have never seen this movie, go rent it and watch it. I believe that is has a very powerful and motivating story line to it.

"Good Will Hunting," released in 1997, was written by two of the actors, the brother duo Matt Damon and Ben Affleck. Will Hunting, a janitor at MIT, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, is portrayed by

the movie, Chuckie Sullivan, is played by Affleck.

Will Hunting is the central character in this story. He is a very brilliant character, who works as a janitor at a very prestigious college. Will is a hard-knock orphan who has never really had a permanent home, thus he is unconfident of himself because of this life.

This film kept my attention for pretty much the whole way through, though some parts are monotonous. This is a very well written movie that has bits and pieces of wit throughout that make this film enjoyable. The humor was well done, but not overly done and the dialogue and the acting was very believable.

The ending left me wanting Damon while Will's best friend in more, though. Most of the viewers

of this film probably feel the same way. I believe that the ending left an opportunity open for there to be a sequel to be done in the future, though this opportunity has now passed.

Adults would definitely find this movie entertaining, but children would probably just be bored out of their mind. I would definitely not recommend this as a family film, for that exact reason. College students, on the other hand, are the main audience for this film, because they can relate to some of the situations portrayed throughout the movie.

For some fun trivia, Robin Williams won an Academy Award for best supporting actor for this motion picture. I think that he definitely deserved it. For the most part this was a serious movie, so you do not really get a chance to witness Robin Williams humor, which is a slight disappointment. He did a wonderful job and he was probably my favorite character in this movie.

I recommend this film to anyone over the age of seventeen or eighteen, because that is the age that people would actually appreciate the message represented in this film.

### Never Too Old For Children's Book

By Erika Rowshan Staff Writer

One might be surprised to find that a senior in College still reads books that are often deemed childish by many and yet, that would describe me rather perfectly. While I still read mainly adult books, occasionally, I see an absolutely adorable children's book that I cannot resist. Case in point: The Penguin Who Wanted to Sparkle by Kath Smith (and illustrated by Sophie Groves).

The Penguin Who Wanted to Sparkle is the tale of a young baby penguin named Pip who (after she hatches) sees sparkling stars and snow around her and wants to sparkle as well. What follows are Pip's adventures in finding out ways to make herself sparkle. Although simple, the story has something of a sweet vibe about it that keeps the reader smiling throughout.

If the story itself has not caused you to become instantly captivated by the cuteness quite yet, never fear because the artwork is just as adorable as well. Not only do you see the many expressions of Pip and her friends, you are also able to see a rather childlike view of snow and cold weather that might take you back to the days when instead of grumbling about how chilly it is outside, you would cheerfully build snowmen and play outdoors.

I do not particularly want to give any major spoilers away but as many children's books

are rather happy in nature it will probably not come as a surprise to anyone that Pip does eventually attain her goal of sparkling with the help of a friendly neighborhood whale. The book ends with Pip happily dancing in the sunlight while the other penguins are cheering her on.

Perhaps this children's book in particular appeals to me because it has two of my favorite animals in it (penguins and whales) but I believe that I also enjoy this book because it helps to take me back to a time when things were simpler in life. Not only that, but the story is quite well written with quite a bit of alliteration and other writing methods that might not be noticeable to children but can definitely be seen by adults.

Basically, my entire point on children's books is that it is still okay for adults to enjoy a charming story such as Pip's tale on occasion. In fact, by still reading and enjoying such sweet books, perhaps we can better be reminded to not take things quite so seriously as we normally do. So, whether or not you are reading this for your enjoyment alone or you wish to read it to a child you might know (cousins, sisters, brothers, etc) it can be an all around enjoyable experience for you. And besides, who would not want to read a story about an adorable sparkling penguin? I rest my case.



Let's be friends. (Photo courtesy of http://upload.moldova.org/movie/movies/g/good\_ will\_hunting/thumbnails/tn2\_good\_will\_hunting\_1.jpg)

## EATURES

## The Dawn of Video Games

### By Andrew Dudich

Staff Writer

Before Halo, Guitar Hero, and the Wii there was Pong. Before Pong, there was an American named Ralph Baer and a dream.

In 1951, Baer secured a position with the firm, Laurel Electronics. His job description was to design the best television ever. In his plans, Baer wanted to include an interface through which consumers could interact with their TV by playing games. The company did not approve of this radical concept and Baer was forced to move it to the back of his mind.



Let's play o game (Picture courtesy of http://www.esquire.com/cm/esquire/imoges/AtariConsole-ESQ-CouchPototoFB.jpg)

Fifteen years later, Baer couldn't ignore his dream any longer and began to build prototypes for video games. Within the next year, Ralph Baer had created a game where players try to evade a chasing square. Soon after, he developed and patented a table-tennis game for the television. Baer named his final prototype "Brown Box" in 1968. This first video game console was able to play multiple games such as target shooting with a light gun and table-tennis. After several sales pitches, Magnavox picked up Baer's invention. In 1972, the Odyssey was born and became the first

home video game system.

From

this point, several other companies sprouted up and built variations on the Odyssey's design. In the meantime, Nolan Bushnell and Ted Dabney had been working on the computer game, Computer Space, which ultimately failed. Leaving the company they had worked for, they decided to go into business for themselves, naming their venture Atari. Their first game was placed in a bar to see how the public responded. The arcade game broke down within two weeks because of the massive amount of quarters inserted. Pong was born.

Not long after in 1976, Exidy Games produced an arcade game called Death Race 2000, modeled after the movie of the same name. Points were earned by running down stick figures with your vehicle. Harsh criticism was immediately received as the public denounced the horrible violence of the video game. Exidy was forced to remove Death Race 2000 from arcades.

The next year, Bushnell envisioned a restaurant chain featuring the union of video games and food. Atari soon opened Pizza Time Theatre with robotic animals and a rat mascot named Chuck E. Cheese. Atari ended a spectacular year by producing the VCS, later renamed the Atari 2600. Cartridge gaming had arrived.

The 1980's emerged with Space Invaders and Pac-Man becoming arcade hits. The games were later ported to the Atari 2600 for home play. Ata workers filed disputes over

Atari 2600 for home play. Atari workers filed disputes over video game crediting which ultimately resulted in several key programmers leaving the company to start Activision. As a result, Atari began to fall into ruin through poor game design. Nevertheless, video games had secured their place in the market with Americans spending over 75,000 hours a year playing.

The mid-80's brought more terrible design ideas and the video game world crumbled.

It was the perfect time for an outsider to grab the reins. Japanese playing card company, Nintendo had been dabbling in video games while Atari had been booming in America.



Yummy gumdrops. (Photo courtesy of http://www.gomespot.com/gomespot/feotures/video/hov/screens/pocmon.jpg)

Nintendo introduced the Nintendo Entertainment System (NES) to test markets in America. The next year, the NES went nationwide with Super Mario Bros. Nintendo quickly dominated the market with hit games such as The Legend of Zelda and in the late 80's, produced the first widely purchased handheld gaming system, Gameboy.

Further developments would be implemented.
Companies would continue to rise and fall, but regardless, video games had won the hearts of America and secured their place in modern home.



These games are for the strong. (Picture courtesy of http://www.rolphbaer.com/images/Brown%20Box%20multigame.jpg)

### Stop Complaining And Make Your Own Fun At Local Junk Shops

### By Danielle Marshall

Editor-in-Chief

So many of us complain about how boring Rensselaer, Indiana is, but few bother to find something to do to counteract that boredom. I have fallen victim to protestations of boredom more times during my four years than I can remember, but I've generally tried to offset it by making some fun of my own occasionally.

I'm always open to discovering new things and visiting new places. Recently, I was invited to go to Uncle John's Market near Schererville. Now, I'm rather hesitant on visiting flea markets mostly because they make me feel dirty like rummage sales, Good Will, and Jasper Junction do. Something about buying people's old junk creeps me out. But I wanted to tag along with my friends and check out the jewelry at the shops (Any of my friends will tell you how much I enjoy shiny jeweiry and now much of it I already have.).

The drive there is easy and simple enough. Take 1-65 to the Lowell/Hebron exit where the Lion's Den is then head in the direction of Lowell. Then you take a right unto Route 41 for a bit before you come upon 152nd Street and the large barns and hopefully car filled fields.

On a nice day like we've been having, the place is packed inside and out full of people buying and selling. It's open year round Saturdays and Sundays from 7 AM to whenever people decide to pack up their booths, so it's a fantastic opportunity to just get away from campus and Jasper County and see if there is some junk that may catch your fancy.

Prices are generally cheap and more affordable than one might expect.

Like I said, I usually find these places dirty and somewhat disgusting, but you can really find some interesting things there. I did feel a little grimy from touching things, but I had hand sanitizer in my purse that I spritzed every now and again. And with it being outdoor and indoor, though, there was plenty of opportunity to get fresh air away from the dust and stuffiness of the barns.

The selection of "junk" is even better than Jasper Junction. Most of my experiences at Jasper Junction have left me feeling that I just looked at the same old junk that should have been thrown out as the last time I visited. Uncle John's, on the other hand, gives you a slightly better chance of walking away with something that isn't exactly junk because there are so many different people there selling things.

You can spend a whole day there and still miss out on some interesting pieces. Some places you just want to gloss over because nothing seems to catch your eye, but you never know what may be hiding. For instance, I decided to poke my head into a dark little hole filled with Victorian styled accessories and dolls while my friends moved along and I discovered a pretty blue parasol that my friend ended up buying that she might not have never seen otherwise.

When you go with friends it's even more fun. Not only will you discover more interesting things, but you possibly could do without because you each have differnt tastes, your friends will often help you make fun of the more ridiculous items like mushroom dishware and Baby Bop necklaces. Take a camera with you and you can get classic images of your friends using dishes as hats and hats as dishes. Your fun could be endless.

You will unlikely walk away empty handed either.
There is something for just about everyone. If you're interested in old electronics, there's someone selling it. If you like old jewelry, there are many people selling it. If you enjoy people watching, there are a lot of characters in these places that you simply cannot resist commenting on sometimes.

I am a pack-rat too, by the way, so that gives me another reason to try to avoid places like these. Sometimes I can't help buying something that I really don't need just because I've always wanted one. (I'll blame it on my mother because she never gets rid of anything.) Because of this habit and my empty wallet, I did not take any money besides my debit card. I found two pieces of jewelry I really liked that I asked a friend to pay for (which I hate doing). I highly recommend taking some cash with you just in case. Even if you don't intend on buying anything and you just want some fun in looking, take the cash. No one there that I saw

had a the capability of taking my debit card and I wouldn't have let them either. Some people can be really shady, even when they are giving you a great deal.

As often as our schedules get busy, we need take the time to drive out on a Saturday or Sunday morning to get away from campus and visit the flea market just to discover something new. If you like Jasper Junction and want to try someplace different, less stuffy, and with a greater selectioon of merch, try heading out to Uncle John's and make some fun of your own instead of complaining about boredom because you insist on sitting around doing nothing.



Yucky germs onyone? (Photo courtesy of http://wondosworx.com/pages\_blog/wp-content/uploads/2008/09/fleas-market.jpg)

# SPORTS March 26, Sean Estand Helps Lead Pumas to Two Key Victories

By Jeremy Butterfield Staff Writer

for the Thoroughbreds. The Pumas were 12-7 going into On the 17th the Saint

Joseph's baseball team traveled to Frankfort, Kentucky to challenge the Kentucky State University Thoroughbreds. This day was going to be a long day for the Pumas because this game was going to be a double-header. The team was feeling ready after their 3-1 series against Missouri-St. Louis over the previous weekend. The Pumas lost the last game 4-1

in the series, but were ready this game. Just two weeks ago the Pumas were ranked 14th in the nation, but because of a poor spring break trip, they dropped a few games and fell from the rankings. The Pumas are still ranked number one in the Grand Valley Lakes Conference (GLVC) standings.

The game started with the Pumas up to bat first. Brian Staatz singled, and then stole second. Joe Messina got walked which pushed Staatz

to third. The Pumas attempted a double steal, but Staatz was tagged out at home. With two outs, Sean Estand stepped into the box with bases loaded and connected for a grand slam. He was an essential part for the Pumas victory that day. The Thoroughbreds were not as lucky as the Pumas were. The Thoroughbreds got two hits but also left two men on base after the inning was over. The man to thank for the Pumas success is Tim LeBeau for his 4 innings of strong pitching. He allowed no runs and only allowed 5 hits. The Thoroughbreds pitcher did not

have any help from his offense. In the game Jacob Brackett pitched all 7 innings and was beaten up in the early innings. The Pumas had the game in the bag with 7 runs in 3 innings with the final score of 7-0. The Pumas took the first game, but could they keep it together for the game later that day?

The second game started 3 hours after the first game, so there was barely any time to rest. Weglarz. Messina, Pericht, Estand, and Staatz played both games. The first inning went by fast with no production whatso ever. The seconded inning started and Brian Staatz got a sacrifice hit that scored two runs. By the 5th

> inning the Pumas were up 7-1. In the bottom of the 5th the Thoroughbreds seemed like they could stage a comeback. Sean Estand continued his success at the plate in the 6th inning and hit a homerun for the Pumas. Then Doug Buysse got a single and allowed Pudlo to score. With Buysse stealing second, Norris hit a single that got Buysse home. That was all the Pumas needed to beat the Thoroughbreds with the final score 10-2..

The Pumas are now 14-7 and 3-1 in conference leading the GLVC East division with only Rockhurst beating them with a record of 15-6 and 3-1. The Pumas and 4 other teams can easily take the conference now but there are still plenty of games to be played. The 21st and 22nd are the next games for the Pumas where they are

traveling to Northern Kentucky to face our conference rivals the Norse for a two day, four game series. The Norse are 10-9 so let's hope we can get a sweep in the series to get a better GLVC record. (Recent Update: Notrthern Ketucky defeated the Pumas in 4 straight games to make the Pumas overall record of 14-11)

SJC Varsity Baseball HOME Schedule:

March 25th-Southern Indiana-Ipm

March 28th-29th (4 gm series/dh) Oakland City- each gm starts @12pm

April 4th-5th- (4gm series/dh) Wisconsin-Parkside- each gm starts

April 7th- (dh) Tiffin- starts @12pm

April 15th- (dh) Kentucky Stategm 1-T.B.A. gm 2@ 12pm

April 18th-19th- (4gm series/dh)-Indianapolis- each gm starts @12pm

May 2nd-3rd- (4gm series/dh)-Kentucky Wesleyan- each gm starts @12pm

gm = Gamedh= Double Header



This Photo: Junior, Thomas Zurliene (Photo courtesy of Fr. Tim McFarland,

### **Back To The Courts For The SJC Tennis Team**

By Pam Larson Staff Writer

Warm weather can only mean a few things: tennis is starting up once again for the spring or global warming has fooled us once again that it is time to bring out the flip flops and shorts. Even though the weather has not been that great, the Puma Tennis teams have still made

Spring leg of the season. To start off the Spring, the men and lady Pumas competed against teams in Alabama and Florida, the areas of the United States where you can wear shorts and flip flops this time of year. By the time the Pumas got back to Indiana for the last half of the semester, both teams had a winning record of 7-4. Warm weather and massive preparation have paid off for both teams.

it back to the court for the

For some of the players, this is the last Spring to contribute to the Tennis team. To keep the streak that the Pumas currently have, they still need to work hard. Senior Andrew

Roberts says, "We need to continue practicing hard for the upcoming GLVC matches to make the GLVC tournament later this spring, as well as keep up our mental game and work together as a team."

Like every sport, tennis is one that involves practice. Quite a few players

#### SJC Tennis Schedule:

Mar 27-@University of Southern Indiana -2:00 pm

Apr 4th- Bellarmine -10:00 am

Apr 7th- Lewis- 2:00 pm

Apr 10th- @Drury- 2:00 pm

Apr 11th-@Rockhurst- 12:00 pm

Apr 17th- Missouri Saint Louis-2:00 pm

Apr 18th- Quincy- 10:00 am

Apr 20th- Bethel College- 3:00 pm

Home Away

have spent more time out on the court this season. Senior Kris McNeary says, "In order to achieve my personal goals, I have to come to practice everyday with a mindset to get better. I also have to come and play tennis outside of practice." With practice and a positive mindset, the Pumas have a fighting chance to go to conference this year.

Now since there is just a little over a month left in the season, we will see how the Puma Tennis team builds up to the pressure of everything at the end

of the school year. Good luck to both teams for the rest of the season!



(Photo courtesy of http://www.saintjoe.edu/athletics/)



In This Photo: Sophomore Miguel Belcina (Photo courtesy of Fr. Tim McFarland, C.PP.S.)



### The Madness Has Reached The Joe!



By John Wyatt Staff Writer

March Madness is here everybody. The most heavily bet upon tournament in the US, perhaps the world, has officially started. The field of 65 teams was set on what is known as selection Sunday on the 14th. It is one of those days that start the heart breaking for droves of fans and players across the nation which means, the madness has a started.

For those that don't know and have been living under the proverbial rock, the field consists of 65 of arguably the best teams in the nation set up into a bracket system tournament divided into 4 different regions or divisions. Teams that win their conferences receive one of 3 I automatic bids to the tourney. Next the teams that are ranked in the AP Top 25 usually receive some of the remaining bids. Finally there are what we call the "atlarge" bids, meaning that teams with the best records but did not rank high enough or win their divisions usually get, however a lot of grueling processes have been played into these decisions such as strength of schedule, how they faired against ranked opponents, and who they won or lost to during the course of the season.

As I am writing this the final first 33 games have been played out, which means that second round of the tourney is getting ready to start. Most of us that have filled out brackets already know the outcome of most of these games. We have either been jumping for joy or throwing things at the TV, nonetheless everyone is buzzing about the games meaning the madness has reached Saint Joe.

So ok enough with the small talk: Louisville, UNC, and UConn, and Pitt the number one seeds in the tourney have rolled over their competition as has Duke, Memphis, MSU, and Oklahoma the number 2 seeds. So far the real upsets so far have been WKU over Illinois, Wisconsin over FSU, the huge Cleveland State over 4 seed Wake Forest, and finally Dayton over WVU. The toss ups games usually consisting of teams in the middle of the pack have gone pretty much

with higher seed losing. Teams that have lost here were 7Clemson to 10Michigan, 8BYU to 9TA&M, 7BC to 10 So. Cal, 7Cal to 10Maryland.

That catches you up for the first round so far. Teams to look out for here on out: Cleveland St.- there is always one sleeper or Cinderella team every year and this might be it. Blowing past Wake Forest and also beating Butler in the conference championship has really put this team on the map.

Michigan- Yes I am biased on this one although most people know that when it comes to Michigan, you just don't know. Literally a team that lives and dies by the 3, if their guards get hot-they are unstoppable. Just ask Clemson, Duke and UCLA.

WKU- reaching the sweet 16 last year, this team is stacked and pumped to do it again. Going up against a weak Gonzaga in the second round, they stand a pretty good chance as long as they stay healthy.

*Arizona*- most of us and even critics were skeptical of this team

making the tourney guess they proved us all wrong by handling 5 seeded Utah.

Purdue- on a roll since winning the Big Ten tourney, they might just have what it takes to throw down UConn in the sweet 16.

#### Predictions:

Elite 8- Louisville, MSU, Pitt, Nova, Syracuse, UNC, UConn, Memphis. Final 4- Louisville, Memphis,

Syracuse, Pitt

Championship, Memphis Pit

<u>Championship</u>- Memphis, Pitt <u>CHAMPS</u>- Memphis (Photo Courtesy of: http://media.photobucket.com/image/unc/glitternsparkle/ sports/COLLEGE/unc/unc15.gif)





(Photo Courtesy of: http://30tocure30 files.wordpress.com/2009/03/march-madness-2008.jpg)

## MLB Breakdown: The NL Central By Jamie Fennessy World Shelic reserve a small in



Staff Writer the

In the last entry I took a look at the NL West and their projected outlooks on the 2009 slate. In this edition I'm going to tear through the rest of the National League and give you a glimpse into the happenings around the NL Cen-

#### The NL Central Houston Astros

tral, and NL East teams.

The Astors are a team that surprises a lot of people at the end of the year. Historically, the Astros start out ice cold, and finish the season on a tear. Expect

these Astros to follow the same storyline this season. With big bats including Carlos Lee, Lance Berkman, Hunter Pence, Miguel Tejada, Michael Bourn, and Kaz Matsui look for the Astros to score a lot of runs. However, the 'stros have a young and inexperienced pitching staff. With key contributors like Roy Oswalt, and Jose Valverde, look for the 'stros staff to show resiliency during the 2009 campaign. The biggest acquistions in the Astros offseason were Mike Hampton, LaTroy Hawkins, and Pudge Rodriguez, look for these former Killer B's to be buzzing in the Cubs ears all

Chicago Cubs
Dear Cub fans,

Last year was tough, (and as a

Sox fan I love writing about it), but it is over and done with. Many would think this is a good thing, however think that the departures in the offseason are going to be very hard to overcome on the North Side of Chicago this summer. Yes, the Cubbies did pick up Milton Bradley, Aaron Miles, Joey Gathright, and the great Paul Bako-but they lost a little bit more. If you own a Mark DeRosa t-shirt jersey, I'm sorry. He was THE CUB of 2008. Ronny Cedeno and Rich Hill are also big departures from the 2008 roster. 2008 is over with and so is Kerry

Wood's Shakespearean sonnet in a Cubs uniform, he can plague the Indians with his inconsistency. If Rich Harden, Carlos Zambrano, and the oft injured Milton Bradley can stay healthy look for the Cubs to win 80-85 games this year in a non-competitive NL Central. I won't begin to talk about the playoffs, but hopefully for Cubs fans across the U.S., W flags might be hanging from the front steps of many faithful homes this October.

#### Cincinatii Reds

Probably the second weakest team in a weaker NL Central division. Dusty Baker and the Red's upper management have retooled the Reds with such names as, Jerry Hairston Jr., and Wily Taveras. Look for young stalwarts such as Joey Votto, Chris Denorfia and Johnny Cueto, and Edinson Volquez to give some credibility to the Reds resume for 2009. The one thing fans have to look at with the Reds is their starting rotation, if all pitchers stay healthy their rotation looks like this: Edinson Volquez, Aaron Harang, Johnny Cueto, Bronson Arroyo, and Micah Owings.

#### Milwaukee Brewers

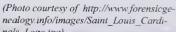
The Brewers have a group of good young talent, Corey Hart, Ryan Braun, Prince Fielder, J.J Hardy, Bill Hall and Rickie Weeks plead a case for Brewer fans to have something to cheer about this season. However, after the departures of C.C. Sabathia, Chris Capuano, and Ray Durham, look for the Brewers to be playing spoiler, more than they will play the top dog in the NL Central.

Alfonso Soriano (left) and Albert Pujols (right) are both contributors to each teams' success.



Saint Louis Cardinals

The Cardinals did not do much in the offseason. Sure, they got Khalil Greene to fill their shortstop void, but he has been a bust ever since he came up through the Padre organization. Skip Schumaker has moved from his starting position in right field, and will be playing second base this year for the Red Birds (his natural position). The Cardinals are just hoping to get their ace back good and healthy in Chris Carpenter, and after the Mark Mulder fiasco is over with, who knows how these Birds will hold up. Look for the Cards to contend with the Astros and Cubs for the NL Central crown.

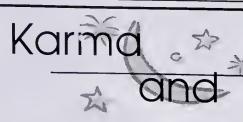




(Photo courtesy of http://woolis.com/images/2007SpringTR/07SpringTR3-04042Soriano.jpg)

Fountain Stone





### the Cosmos

Aries (Mar. 21-Apr. 19) You have a lot of projects coming up and are feeling a bit worried about them. Although the nice Spring weather may have you wanting to go out and play, do not forget those projects in the process or you might regret it later on. better with time.

Taurus (Apr. 20-May. 19) Although many of your friends may be stressed right now you are actually feeling relatively relaxed about things. Perhaps you can use those positive feelings to help those friends out who might be in need for some good advice right now.

Gemini (May 20-June 20) Some big changes are in the air for you over the next few weeks. Not only that, but they are also relatively positive changes as well! Be sure to keep up the good work and you will be quite happy.

neard

If you've heard anything

scandalous at the cafeteria,

anything outrageous enough

that you can't keep it to

yourself, then look no further!

Submit your anonymous

saintjoe.edu today to let your

peers' voices be heard!

You are a very chaste

dog.

comments to erm6109@

Cancer (June 21-July 21) A lot of people have seemingly been trying to provoke you as of late and for that reason, you might not be able to enjoy things as much as normal. Simply try to shrug them off with a smile and things will get

Leo (July 22-Aug. 22) Over the next few weeks you need to focus on your highest needs. Whether those needs are school, friends, or family members is entirely personal but be sure to keep an eye on those things as something important could happen soon.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 21) The nice spring weather has you in the mood to go outside and enjoy yourself. You should definitely consider doing this since you will be quite busy not too terribly long from now. Enjoy relaxing while it lasts!

#### By Star Goddess Sophia

Libra (Sept. 22- Oct. 22)

You are not actually in a rut (even though you might feel like you are in one). Instead of focusing on the negatives, perhaps you should try something new and spontaneous. If you do this you will find that things are not quite so bad as you might have perceived them to be.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) You are feeling quite in touch with nature lately and thus have been spending a great deal of time out and about. Even though you might be feeling more social than usual, you might want to draw yourself in a bit and focus on studies a bit more.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 20) People seem to really be enjoying what you have to say as of late. You should use these communication skills to really get across some complex ideas that have been floating around in your head as of late.



Capricorn (Dec. 21-Jan. 19) Now is a great time to come up with a new way to show your loved one how you feel (or to attract some new attention if you are single). By doing this you will help bring some great energy to all of the people who you love.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 17) If you can share even a small amount of your good energy with your fellow Pumas today, they should feel great for weeks! You are feeling on top of the world and by expressing that to everyone else, you will help good energy to flow!

Pisces (Feb. 18-Mar. 20) You have been focusing a lot on the intellectual side of campus as of late and not nearly enough on your friends. Attempt to go out and have a good time over the next few weeks and you will feel much better because of it!

### Fact of the Matter

The first person who was selected as the Time Magazine Man of the year was Charles Lindbergh in 1927.

World tourist day is observed on September 27.

You burn more calories sleeping than you do watching television.

A lion's roar can be heard from five miles away.

The word "nerd" was coined by Dr. Seuss in "If I Ran the Zoo."

Dueling is legal in Paraguay as long as both parties are registered blood donors.

Children grow faster in the Springtime.

Facts courtesy of: http://www. cs.cmu.edu/~bingbin/

#### Words of Wisdom

"An optimist is the human personification of Spring."

Susan J. Bissonette

"In all things of nature there is something of the marvelous. Aristotle"

"All I can say about life is, Oh God, enjoy it!"

**Bob Newhart** 

Quotes courtesy of www.quotationspage.com

#### **Theaters** Movies for March 26 (219) 866-2222 fountainstonetheaters.com Coraline (PG) Fri: 4:40, 6:50 Sat: 4:00, 6:20, 8:40 Sun: 1:40, 4:00, 6:20 Mon-Thurs: 4:40 I Love You, Man (R) Fri: 4:10, 6:30, 8:50 Sat: 4:10: 6:30, 8:50 Sun: 1:50, 4:10, 6:30 Mon-Thurs: 4:30, 6:40 Knowing (PG-13) Fri: 4:40, 7:00, 8:50 Sat: 4:40, 7:00, 8:50 Sun: 2:20, 4:40, 7:00 Mon-Thurs: 4:20, 6:30 Race to Witch Mountain (PG) Fri: 4:30, 6:50, 8:40 Sat: 4:30, 6:50, 8:40 Sun: 2:10, 4:30, 6:50 Mon-Thurs: 4:50, 6:50 (R) Fri: 4:20, 6:40, 8:30 Sat: 4:20, 6:40, 8:30 Sun: 2:00, 4:20, 6:40 Mon-Thurs: 7:00 Watchmen (R) Fri: 4:20, 6:40, 8:50 Sat: 4:20, 6:40, 8:50 Sun: 2:00, 4:20, 6:40 Mon-Thurs: 6:20

### The Ritz Cinema

Movies for March 26 (219) 866-0086 www.ritzcinema.net

The Reader Every night at 7:30

I wish my muffin would talk.

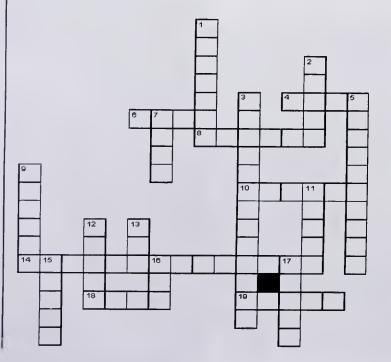
Saramanella poisoning is getting really bad.

Van Helsing versus Edward. Someone had better make it happen.

Person One: Hold on! We are driving right into a black hole!

Person Two: What are you talking about?!

**Spring Crossword** Puzzle Courtesy of: http://bogglesworldesl. com/spring.htm



#### Across

4. Spring weather.

6. An animal that wakes up after a long winter nap.

8. Begin to grow.

10. Somebody who plants crops.

14. White or pink tree flowers that bloom in spring.

18. Something that can grow into a tree or a plant.

19. The middle month of spring.

#### Down

1. These begin to bloom in spring.

2. Farmers crops.

3. A day for playing tricks.

5. A day to thank mom.

7. Mother birds lay these in their nests.

9. Go to the country and have lunch.

11. What snow does in the

mountains. 12. Some of these return from

their winter homes. 13. The last month of spring.

15. Baby birds

from their eggs.

16. A flower before it blossoms.

17. The first month of spring.